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July 28, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHARLES COLSON

FROM: HOWARD HUNT

SUBJECT: Neutralization of Ellsberg

I am proposing a skeletal operations plan aimed at building a file on Ellsberg that will contain all available overt, covert and derogatory information. This basic tool is essential in determining how to destroy his public image and credibility.

Items:

Obtain all overt press material on Ellsberg and continue its collection;

Request CIA to perform a covert psychological assessment/evaluation on Ellsberg;

Interview Ellsberg's first wife;

Interview Ellsberg's Saigon contacts: the restaurant owner, Nicolai, and his mistress whom Ellsberg coveted;

Request CIA, FBI, and CIC for their full holdings on Ellsberg;

Examine Ellsberg personnel files at ISA (Pentagon) and the Rand Corporation, including clearance materials;

Obtain Ellsberg's files from his psychiatric analyst;

Inventory Ellsberg's ISA and Rand colleagues; determine where they are, and whether any might be approachable.

I realize that, as a practical matter, not all the foregoing items can be accomplished; even so, they represent desiderata.

Neal Freeman

Bill Gill

Rogers Beech

Clark Mallory

Ralph E Tolbert

James Bennett

Jackie Jones

Willie Edwards

Bill Buckley

Bill White

ALSOPO